

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 EB-11 SAJ-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /151 W

----- 079391

R 091407Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7788

INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 5070

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO BU

SUBJECT: MINIC VISIT TO SOFIA

1. JUDGING FROM PRESS REPORTS, VICE PREMIER AND FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC'S NOV 4-6 VISIT TO SOFIA RESULTED IN AGREEMENT TO DISAGREE ON THE BASIC BILATERAL ISSUE OF THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION. MINIC'S REFERENCES TO "BULGARIANS ON ONE SIDE AND SERBS AND MACEDONIANS ON THE OTHER", AND PRESS MENTION OF THE OPEN PROBLEM OF THE "RECOGNITION OF THE MACEDONIAN NATIONAL MINORITY IN BULGARIA" CANNOT PLEASE SOFIA. FINAL COMMUNIQUE, HOWEVER, CLEARLY TRIED TO POINT TO AREAS OF AGREEMENT; I.E., ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, ON THE NEED FOR HEIGHTENED ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AND THE DESIRABILITY FOR BALKAN COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES TO SETTLE DIFFERENCES PEACEFULLY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION AT RECENT DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION, BOTH FSFA OFFICIAL AND BULGARIAN COUNSELOR LUBEN DAMYANOV (SEPARATELY) ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFERENCES, CLAIMED GOODWILL ON BOTH SIDES AND ASSERTED MINIC TALKS WERE STRICTLY BILATERAL

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INITIATIVE, WITH NO PRODDING FROM THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS

EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION BOTH SIDES WISH GIVE APPEARANCE
IMPROVEMENT RELATIONS IN GENERAL ATMOSPHERE OF EUROPEAN DETENTE
EVEN IF THIS NOT ACTUALLY THE CASE.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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